

12.15.72 It remains a mystery to me why Harper's paid anything for the rights to the Bremer diary, which can't be sold, being public domain. (Not 115 pages, as I recall, but numbered to 114, with the earliest missing, and another whole and earlier diary buried and not recovered.) Harper's has a sycophancy record not deterred by financial disaster, as with Priscilla Johnson's magnus opus on Marina, Manchester's treacle, which may account for it. The low price paid indicates the diary itself is not what Harper's seeks/sought. That cost less than the time and calls or letter-writing required to get it. Why the lawyers would do it knowing that those hurt have and can file prior claims is also baffling. If one looks for a logical answer. As in the immortal words of Liebeler, "We'll add that to the top of the stack". HW